


From: [Blair Besten](#)
To: [Raquel Beard](#)
Cc: [Kent Smith](#); [Marie Rumsey](#); [Jessica Lall](#); [Rena Leddy](#)
Subject: Re: Homeless letter to Councilmember Huizar
Date: Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:50:45 PM

Raquel,


Great points. I hope you are all available at 10am tomorrow -- it would be great for us to touch base on this letter but also maybe briefly on the 56.11 conversation from yesterday.



BLAIR BESTEN
Executive Director

209-211 West 5th Street
Los Angeles, California
90013

p 213.488.1901
c 213.700.9829
HistoricBID.com



24HR HOTLINE: **213.239.8336**

On Thu, Aug 13, 2015 at 3:19 PM, Raquel Beard
<rbeard@centralcityeast.org> wrote:

Hi All,

Kent, your feelings are certainly valid. However, as we all know there has to be a starting point and this issue needs to be cleaned from the inside out. Skid Row is the inside where all of this generated, and a major reason why homelessness is in all of your districts Downtown.

Skid Row is the focus right now for the City and County solely because it's been allowed to grow and grow some more. It's completely out of control and is bursting at the seams. Overdoses, stabbings, rapes, and now shootings are happening more frequently. The overflow go to your districts, which keeps them close enough to the dope, clinics, and Missions. We're in a state of emergency and Skid Row is ground zero. If you don't focus on fixing and eventually eliminating this Skid Row monster, your districts are only going to get worse.

I'm not available tomorrow at 2pm, but can a good compromise be to include the south side of 7th Street which is across from the ending Skid Row boundary and where a lot of encampments are? Maybe a couple of other streets? I just think that the vaster the area we're asking to be covered, the "resources" issue/excuse will be given.

Remember the beginning of SCI and how its focus was on Skid Row? Didn't see more people in your districts, but you did see less.

Raquel K. Beard, Executive Director

L.A. Downtown Industrial District BID

Ph: [213-228-8484](tel:213-228-8484)

Fax: [213-228-8488](tel:213-228-8488)

rbeard@centralcityeast.org

industrialdistrictla.com

Facebook: Los Angeles Downtown Industrial District



Managed by Central City East Association (CCEA)

From: Kent Smith [mailto:kent@fashiondistrict.org]

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 11:07 AM

To: Marie Rumsey <MRumsey@ccala.org>; Jessica Lall <jessica@southpark.la>; Blair

Besten <blair@historiccore.bid>; Raquel Beard <rbeard@centralcityeast.org>

Cc: Rena Leddy <rena@fashiondistrict.org>

Subject: RE: Homeless letter to Councilmember Huizar

Marie,

Rena & I have reviewed the letter which is now very comprehensive in addressing virtually all the issues that relate to homelessness.

I have talked to our Board on a number of these issues but have not had conversations on others.

Given that I now feel I need the support of my Board to sign the letter.

The Board meets in mid-September.

We also have a number of concerns with some of the recommendations in new version of the letter.

In addition, as discussed earlier we still feel the letter is too focused on Skid Row at the expense of addressing encampments in the rest of downtown.

For example the Fashion District has 16% of the encampments in downtown, (300 vs 1900), not an insignificant number.

We are particularly concerned that LASHA & DMH outreach teams are ignoring downtown & concentrating all of their efforts in Skid Row.

We welcome your thoughts & are happy to discuss those concerns with you with the goal of getting our Board approval to send the letter by the middle of September.

Thanks

Kent Smith

Executive Director

LA Fashion District BID

110 E. 9th Street, Ste. A-1175

Los Angeles, CA 90079

[213.488.1153](tel:213.488.1153) Ex. 712

kent@fashiondistrict.org

From: Marie Rumsey [<mailto:MRumsey@ccala.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:43 PM

To: Jessica Lall <jessica@southpark.la>; Blair Besten <blair@historiccore.bid>; Kent Smith <kent@fashiondistrict.org>; Raquel Beard <rbeard@centralcityeast.org>

Subject: Homeless letter to Councilmember Huizar

Hi all, The letter has been edited some and I wanted to make sure you were still okay with your signature being included.

Please take a look and let me know.

Thank you, Marie